

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/075,437	TUCKER, SCOTT	
	Examiner Anjan K Deb	Art Unit 2858	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed 02/20/2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23.
3. The drawings filed on 14 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

Anjan K Deb

Anjan K Deb
Examiner
Art Unit: 2858

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to amendment filed 02/20/2004.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-23 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance of the claims 1-7, 12-22 is the inclusion of first and second current mirror producing first and second currents respectively proportional to write current in a first direction and in a second direction opposite the first direction, and detecting a short circuit condition at a write head terminal when an average value of the first current is different from an average value of second current by a predetermined amount.

The primary reason for allowance of the claims 8-11, 23 is the inclusion of a current mirror that produces a mirrored write current that is proportional to the write current passed through the inductive head assembly in two directions, and detecting an open circuit condition at a write head terminal when the magnitude of the write current drops below a predetermined value.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Pertinent Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

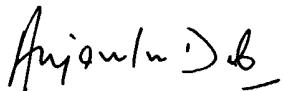
Eunkyu (US 6,710,594) discloses method and apparatus for testing the condition of an inductive write head 202, by passing current through write head from current source 2050, measuring resistance of inductive write head, and determining write head condition from measured resistance. Eunkyu does not disclose producing a mirrored write current that is proportional to the write current for determining the condition of write head.

Hachisuka (US 6,340,885 B1) discloses method and apparatus for testing magnetic head comprising inductive element 51, passing a current to the inductive element supplied from head read/write current control IC 53, measuring voltage across the magnetic head, and determining 56 a condition of the head. Hachisuka does not disclose producing a mirrored write current that is proportional to the write current for determining the condition of write head.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Anjan K. Deb whose telephone number is (571)-272-2228. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, N. Le, can be reached at (571)272-2233.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone numbers are (703)-308-0956 and (703)-305-4900.



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4/16/04	